

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

1120 Long Pond Road, Plymouth, MA 02360

A ministry of:

The New Testament Church of Cedarville

TRAINING LEADERS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY



The New Testament Christian School
AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR MINISTRY

The New Testament Christian School's mission is "Training Tomorrow's Christian Leaders Today." It is our desire that our families and student body comprise of those who desire to be internally governed by Christ and be trained with a Biblical Worldview.

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The Past

*Where We
Have Been*

Our school was set up to portray a decisively Biblical Approach to Education which was developed from the research and study of Scripture and the history of education in America, along with the observation of 32 Christian schools on the east coast. We are classical but post-Reformational and seek to correct the Trivium model where its Aristelian base differs from the Biblical view of learning.

Students in high school have consistently performed one to two grade levels above the national norm on standardized achievement tests and within the top 5% of schools on tests that measure world view and leadership training from a Biblical perspective.

Since 1982, teams of adults and youth, under the direction of school founder, Dr. Paul Jehle, have traveled to 35 states and seven foreign countries, resulting in hundreds of schools being started and or transformed into a distinctly Biblical and classical approach to education.

The Future

*Why we
Go*

Our primary goal for students is that they become leaders who are able to direct their families, impact the future churches to which they may belong, and make an impact upon the culture where they will live. In order to accomplish this, students are taught that their calling is to be in full-time Christian service in whatever occupation they may find themselves.

The New Testament Christian School challenges each student to stretch beyond their current level of ability and thought, build a mindset, develop reasoning skills, and experience new outlets for service. Each student is taught the primary qualification for leadership is service to others in a spirit of humility.

Our school embraces a college preparatory curriculum, but even if a student is not so inclined, they are taught that they can make a difference in whatever field they may be called to serve. The primary purpose of school is to be equipped and prepared to obey the command of Jesus to *“Go ye therefore and teach all nations...teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”*

Matthew 28:19-20

The Vision

As a discipleship arm of The New Testament Church, we desire to raise a generation of youth that will take seriously the evangelism, restoration, and discipleship of common people from the individual, family, church, and neighborhood to the nations of the world.

We wish to train leaders for every field of society who view every field of service as full-time Christian service.

We wish to train young people to be scholars who know how to research and produce solutions through Biblical reasoning in every area of life.

We wish to help students restore our nation's Christian heritage and government.

We desire our school be a training ground for parents, students, teachers and administrators. We can see a vision of Christian education that applies Biblical truth to every area of the curriculum so that institutional and home schools can produce leaders of society at large.

Finally, we desire youth and adults to minister together, beginning in the home, with a total commitment to occupy the culture for Christ, whatever the cost.

The Training

The Elementary Years

Beginning in Kindergarten, where students learn to read and write, and then developing through elementary school where they learn to research and develop reasoning skills, each student is given careful oversight in a teacher-student ratio less than 1 to 10.

In addition to weekly chapels and memorization of Bible verses, poetry, short stories and the study of mathematics, science, history, geography, music, art and literature prepare students to be equipped for leadership at home and abroad. Parents and students have remarked that the atmosphere cultivated at school is unified, secure and feels like a large family.

One of our goals in the elementary years is to focus on character development so that the traits of loyalty, faithfulness and commitment can become habits. The responsibilities of obedience to a spiritual vision and service to others, along with self-government and academic excellence, mold the minds, hearts and abilities of children, preparing them for their future.

The Harvest Years

In grades 7-12 we desire to see years of harvest where what has been sown comes up as a fruitful crop. The training of the past is now utilized in the application of ministry in the present. Classes elect their own officers, form a Student Council, and work as a team to apply what they learn in serving others.

The Fruit

In addition, deeper classical studies help them to understand our nation's history, as well as learn the principles of logic, elocution, rhetoric and debate. While teaching from a distinctly Biblical perspective, other opposing arguments are studied so that a student knows how to come to conclusions on their own. Students see themselves as leaders, not just within their school, but also in their church and community at large.

When time for graduation arrives, we desire to see the growth and development of a Christian young man or woman, one who has tasted the experience of studying, mastering learning and knowledge, and using these skills in the service of others. To date, over two thirds of our graduates have gone on to higher education of all kinds, and some of the children and grandchildren of those who first sat in our desks or taught in our classrooms now grace our presence!

In 1982, the book *Go Ye Therefore and Teach* was published, documenting the history, philosophy and vision of our school. It sold in 50 nations. In 1984, the second edition was published, and now the third edition, published in 2006, in two volumes, has additional chapters on administration and curriculum. This book is now used as a standard for Biblical teaching and learning for home and day schools throughout the world.

Philosophy of Education

Methods

Methods are not neutral for they illustrate and demonstrate the philosophy under which we teach. The way one teaches (and subsequently the way a child learns) is as important as what is taught.

- The Bible reveals that the pattern God designed for the mind to operate is as follows:
 - *reflection* (pondering principles and absolute truth),
 - *creativity* (personal expression that reflects individual productivity),
 - and *application* (practically using what has been learned in daily life).

- We have utilized tools to help a child master the above pattern for the renewing of the mind:
 - *the notebook* (a tool of reflection where students labor as they learn),
 - *essay* (a tool of expression, where oral and written productivity takes place),
 - *outlets* (projects, field studies and areas of service where students use what they've learned).

- A Biblical world view that ties everything together:
 - *Knowledge* – facts of a discipline
 - *Understanding* – principles of a discipline
 - *Wisdom* – application of that discipline

The Teaching-Learning Process

Biblical discipleship

- A discipleship training format where the teacher is the example and authority, reproducing himself in the life of his students. The teacher is a living text, imparting as well as informing.

Patterned after what we feel is Biblical discipleship:

- *Teaching* – a teacher imparts and informs;
 - *Learning* – a student is coached in knowing how to be a disciplined learner
 - *Applying* – where students learn to work individually and in groups
- A small group format where class covenants formally tie together the efforts of students and assist them in agreeing to the discipline of self-government. As classes, students learn to work together, govern, plan and execute activities.
 - A ministry focus where corporate praise and worship, led by students and adults, enables them to sense being a part of one unified school that has been formed to accomplish a large mission. Here, their gifts are nurtured and released, laying a foundation for future callings and vocations.
 - In order for true Christian Education to take place:
 - 1) The Teacher must be Christ-centered in their heart and lifestyle,
 - 2) The Academic Lesson must be based on the rudiments of Christ as seen in Scripture, and
 - 3) The Method of Teaching must be consistent with a Biblical Philosophy of Education.

Seven Principles

Biblical principles are taught through the concepts of the academic disciplines. Neither the Bible nor the discipline needs to be compromised in its integrity or scholarship when the goal is to reveal what God has already put within the structure of the discipline itself.

Thus, a Biblical world view is embedded within the disciplines, and it is not our intent nor is it our goal to forcefully link Scripture with academic concepts.

The principles we emphasize (minimally, for there are many others as well) are seven in number:

Christian Character

- Expressed to Adam as the command to dress the garden, this principle of labor is the key to character development and the fruit of the Spirit.

Romans 8:29, Gal. 5:22,23

Biblical Stewardship

- Expressed in the command to keep the garden, this principle teaches responsibility and accountability to preserve what one has been given or produced beginning with the conscience.

Matthew 16:26, 2 Cor. 5:10

Christian Self-Government

- Revealed as the liberty given to Adam to eat all the trees of the Garden except one, this emphasizes the fact that the greater internal control one has, the less external control one needs.

Proverbs 16:32, Gal. 5:16-18, 1 Tim 1:8-10

Sowing and Reaping

- Adam was clearly given the consequence of his decisions in the Garden. This principle outlines for us God's process of growth, sowing and reaping, and why it is so important to understand the consequences of our ideas and actions. The seeds planted today will affect generations tomorrow.
Galatians 6:7-10, Is. 58:12

God's Sovereignty

- God reasoned with Adam to plan, judge and execute the decision to find a helpmate. God desires to reason with man, letting him share sovereignty in life. Training children in understanding jurisdictions (limited authority) is critical for their future homes, churches and society at large.
Psalms 8:6,7; 115:16; 1 Peter 3:15

Variety

- The stamp of approval and blessing on the variety in which Adam named the animals clearly shows that diversity is a complement to Creation. Students learn to understand and be edified by one another's differences, recognizing the underlying unity that must preserve us: our love and duty to our Creator and the value of an individual life.
1st Corinthians 12:12

In Conclusion... as students embrace a Biblical worldview for themselves through the study of our curriculum, it is our desire that they apply these truths in their personal lives becoming a living epistle of Christ Jesus their Lord.

We are indebted to...

- Rus Walton, who as Executive Director of the Plymouth Rock Foundation introduced a Biblical world and life view to the founder of The New Testament Christian School, Dr. Paul Jehle.
- Verna Hall and Rosalie Slater of the Foundation for American Christian Education, whose encouragement, primary source materials on America's heritage and education, helped our research in the spirit and philosophy of the *Principle Approach*.
- Jim and Barbara Rose, whose American Christian History Institute and book *Guide to American Christian Education in the Home and School* has helped us in the development of aspects of our curriculum.
- The New Testament Church, whose faithful oversight and financial investment has enabled the school to continue as an integral and inseparable ministry of student discipleship.
- Our faculty and staff, some of whom still labor among us after three decades, who take a serious view of the calling to instruct young people, joining with their parents in a covenant relationship.
- Our students, whose hearts encourage us, whose minds are a fruitful garden, and whose lives testify of the on-going work of producing disciples and many of whom return with good testimonies or even the enrollment of their children!

Testimonies

“Understanding that God is sovereign over all things has really helped me to change my outlook on life. Colossians 1:16 and 17 sum up with ‘all things were created by Him and for Him: and He is before all things and by Him all things consist.’ Through this scripture, I realized that I was created by God and for God. This must mean that I have a purpose for being on this earth that God created me just the way I am with talents and abilities for a specific reason. No longer will I fall to the lies that I was a worthless idiot with no future. This is how my zeal to witness and share the Gospel on outreach came about.”

Cynthia Hosford, Class of 1988

“As a Christian teacher, I was very eager to learn how it is possible to teach by the application of Biblical principles in school, about how the Bible reveals the origins and foundations of all subject matters, and how history helps reveal God’s hand and plan for the nations...The New Testament Christian School has been a tool and an encouragement for me to direct myself towards God’s calling...I desire to bring this side of the Great Commission (discipling and training) back to the people of Latin America.”

Flor de Mayo Pacheco, teacher

I actually had the unique experience of being able to come back after I graduated from college and teach for 3 years at the school. I really wanted to do that mostly because I wanted to give back. I was so grateful for what had been poured into me as an elementary/high school student, I wanted to come back and do the same thing.

Erin Doherty, Class of 1993

I would definitely recommend for people to consider the school. I think it is important to remember that the school is kind of an incubator. It is a good place to have this atmosphere to learn, to love God. As kids grow in that they start to make their own choices, as I had to do, and to learn to follow God for yourself. The school gives you those tools and gives you an atmosphere that is helpful to grow.

Hannah Stone, Class of 2003

It is smaller so you really get to know the other people, your classmates and your teachers. They become more like family.

Natalie deMacedo, Class of 2012

INFORMATION

To request for more information,
Please write or call us at:

The New Testament Christian School
1120 Long Pond Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

(508)888-1879

Tuition rates available upon request, as well as
Scholarship Request forms for those in need.

Churches or groups of parents which desire to find out more about us can request an
Outreach Team of parents, students and teachers who will share the vision and
answer questions.

Names and numbers of present families in your children's grade levels can also be
given for your information.

Standardized test scores available for study.

Any visits to the school can be arranged with the secretary.

Satellite homeschool coverage is also available through this ministry, with many
families participating and gaining the benefits of both day school
and homeschool.